

A NEW SPECIES OF MEXICAN *ARCHIBACCHARIS* (COMPOSITAE:
ASTEREAE)

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ABSTRACT

A new species, *Archibaccharis venturana*, from Veracruz, México, is proposed. It is similar to *A. salmeoides* but distinct in its much smaller and more numerous heads.

KEY WORDS: *Archibaccharis*, Astereae, Asteraceae, México.

Recent collections have revealed the existence of a new species of *Archibaccharis* from the state of Veracruz, México, which is described below.

Archibaccharis venturana Nesom, *spec. nov.* TYPE: MÉXICO. Veracruz: Mpio. Villa Aldama, 5 km N of Hwy 140 at Cruz Blanca on road to Las Minas, 14 km (air) NE of the town of Perote, 2300 m, extremely steep slopes, top of canyon at edge of plateau, volcanic bedrock, with *Quercus* spp., *Pinus patula*, *Alnus acuminata* ssp. *arguta*, *Arbutus xalapensis*, 24 Aug 1986, M. Nee 32893 (HOLOTYPE: TEX!; Isotypes: ENCB,F,MEXU,MO,NY,XAL).

A. salmeoides (S.F. Blake) S.F. Blake similis sed capitulis numerosioribus multo minoribus et flosculis minoribus differt.

Scandent (scrambling, arching, leaning on other plants), herbaceous subshrubs. Stems noticeably but not strongly zig-zag, eglandular, sparsely and loosely pilosulous with trichomes having colored cross walls. Leaves thick, the upper surface slightly shiny, with a tight, slightly raised reticulum, glabrous except for a few hairs along the veins, the lower surface with a few scattered hairs, the blades lanceolate-ovate with short acuminate apices and rounded to obtuse bases, 45-70 mm long, 18-30 mm wide, on petioles 9-11 mm long, the margins serrulate apiculate with 8-12 pairs of teeth. Capitulescences axillary and terminal, in rounded, ebracteate panicles. Staminate heads not seen. Pistillate heads with 8-10 filiform pistillate flowers and 2 central, staminate flowers; phyllaries ovate-lanceolate, purple tinged, with fringed ciliate margins,

in 3-4 graduated series, the inner phyllaries 2.0-2.5 mm long, the outer 1/4-1/3 as long, sparsely hairy. Pistillate corollas eligulate, with tube 1.0-1.1 mm long, hairy, the style 1.8-2.0 mm long, with branches 0.2-0.5 mm long. Staminate corollas 2.0-2.4 mm long, the throat 1.0-1.4 mm long, green to purple, prominently pubescent with divergent, yellowish, thick clavate hairs. the lobes 0.6-1.0 mm long, purple; style branches lanceolate, 0.3-0.4 mm long. Achenes short hairy, ca 1.0 mm long; pappus of barbellate bristles.

Additional collection examined: MEXICO. Veracruz: Mpio. Acajete, Mazatepec, ladera de cerro, vegetacion de bosque de Tejocote, 1910 m, 5 Jul 1972. *F. Ventura* A. 5660 (ENCB, distributed as *A. schiedeana*).

The epithet commemorates Francisco Ventura, prolific and discriminating collector of the Polytechnic Institute of Mexico (ENCB). The Ventura collection cited above has been annotated by B.L. Turner and by the author as being similar to but very atypical of *Archibaccharis salmeoides*. With the recent collection of ample and geographically similar material by Michael Nee, it is possible to recognize the species as distinct.

Archibaccharis venturana is similar to *A. salmeoides* (sect. *Hirtella*; [Jackson 1975]) in its scandent habit and in having stems that are hairy and eglandular, leaves that are thick, glabrate, shiny (above), petiolate and ovate-lanceolate, and disc corollas that are purple. The new species is strikingly different in its much smaller, more numerous and densely packed heads. More easily quantifiable differences are summarized in the following couplet.

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| 1. Pistillate heads with phyllaries 2.0 mm long, with 2 staminate flowers, the corollas 2.0-2.4 mm long; flowering July-August; west central Veracruz | <i>A. venturana</i> |
| 1. Pistillate heads with phyllaries 4.0-6.5 mm long, usually with 1 staminate flower, the corollas 3.2-4.4 mm long; flowering November-February; known from Veracruz, Guerrero, Michoacán, Chiapas and Guatemala | <i>A. salmeoides</i> |

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LITERATURE CITED

- Jackson, J.D. 1975. A revision of the genus *Archibaccharis* Heering (Compositae, Astereae). *Phytologia* 32:81-194.